

Chapter 12 Glossary

Albrecht Dürer: German-based (Northern) who traveled to Italy to study, whose Northern painting with attention to detail meshed with Italian perspective. His self portrait not only captures this blended essence, but also the High Renaissance's trend toward individual recognition.

anatomical structure: Along with movement, this became the other main basis for early Renaissance art, which resulted in an occupation with the rendering of human form.

Baldassare Castiglione: Italian courtier, diplomat, soldier and a prominent Renaissance author, who wrote *The Book of the Courtier*, a handbook for European aristocrats.

Battle of Kosovo: Ottoman forces defeated Serbian forces, and along with the Siege of Constantinople, expanded the Ottoman Empire into Eastern and Central Europe.

Bohemia: Part of the HRE, but more associated with Poland because of their Slavic heritage. The Bohemian nobility's wealth was increased at the expense of both the crown and the church.

Bramante: Architect of the High Renaissance, like others, inspired by classic Greco-Roman models (arches, columns). Best known for the *Tempietto*.

Charles VII: Early "New Monarch" of France who was able to establish a royal army, establish the *taille* (tax)

city-state: Predominant form of political, social and economic organization--particularly in northern Italy.

civic humanism: An emerging form of humanism that claimed that Renaissance intellectuals had a duty to live an active life for their state.

Concerning Character: A treatise on education by Pietro Paolo Vergerio that stressed the importance of liberal studies--a cornerstone Renaissance humanist education.

Court of Star Chamber: Made up of judges and privy councillors who could enforce the law when other courts were unable to do so because of corruption and influence. Use of torture was common.

Donatello: Sculptor who spent time studying and copying classic Roman sculpture. One of his most famous, *David*, captures a classic story, but incorporates Renaissance emotion (1428).

dowry: Part of the medieval marriage contract whereby the family of a bride would provide cash and other incentives to the family of the groom, which allowed for upward social mobility.

Emperor Frederick III: Early ruler of the Holy Roman Empire who gained vast territory in Franch-Comte, Luxembourg and the Low Countries by marrying his son to Mary, daughter of Duke Charles the Bald.

Estates: Social structure of the Middle Ages inherited by the Renaissance consisting of First Estate (Clergy), Second Estate (Nobility), and Third Estate (Peasants)

extended family: Family structure where large prominent families remained connected often living under the same roof.

Fall of Constantinople.: The capture of the capital of the Byzantine Empire by an invading army of the Ottoman Empire on 29 May 1453

Filippo Brunelleschi: Renaissance architect who drew inspiration from Roman monumental architecture, one of his most famous works is the Dome of the *Duomo* in Florence (1417).

Five Major States: Milan, Venice, Florence, Papal States, Naples--successful due to strong political organization, wealth and trade.

Francesco Guicciardini: Renaissance historian who wrote *History of Italy* and *History of Florence*, which many consider to be the beginning of modern analytical historiography.

Francesco Petrarch: 14th century "father of the Italian Renaissance," especially important in formulating and advancing the idea of Renaissance humanism.

Francesco Sforza: *condottieri* in Milan who conquered the city in 1450 and became its new duke and created a highly centralized state.

Giotto: 14th century painter who Renaissance artists point to as the first to use the imitation of nature, thus transitioning from Medieval art to Renaissance.

Gothic cathedral: Previous form of architecture that relied on overwhelming scale and size, which was replaced by more classic style of Greece and Rome which cleaner lines of arches and columns.

Granada: Southern Muslim territory that fell to Spain in 1492, which allowed Isabella to strongly encourage Muslims to convert to Christianity or flee.

Guillaume Dufay: Renaissance musician who used secular tunes to compose religious Masses.

Habsburg Dynasty: A German princely family founded by Albert, count of Hapsburg (1153). From 1440 to 1806, the Habsburgs wore the imperial crown of the Holy Roman Empire almost uninterruptedly. They also provided rulers for Austria, Spain, Hungary, Bohemia.

Hanseatic League: alliance of trading guilds that established and maintained a trade monopoly along the coast of Northern Europe, from the Baltic to the North Sea, during the Late Middle Ages and Early modern period

Henry VII: First of the Tudor kings of France who defeated the Lancaster King Richard III. He reduced the power of the nobility by abolishing "livery and maintenance, a way nobles maintained private armies.

hermeticism: religious, philosophical, and esoteric tradition broadly understood as "God as a whole is in all things."

High Renaissance: Between 1480-1520 a shift in Renaissance based on scientific observation, individualism, and an importance on Rome as a new cultural center.

Holy Roman Empire: A multi-ethnic complex of territories in central Europe that developed during the Early Middle Ages and continued until its dissolution in 1806 whose main power base was the Habsburg Dynasty.

House of Medici: prominent Florentine family who helped restore Florence to preeminence based on its banking and commercial endeavors.

humanism: cultural and intellectual movement of the Renaissance that emphasized human potential to attain excellence and promoted direct study of the literature, art, and civilization of classical Greece and Rome.

idealization: A key idea of the High Renaissance characterized by a shift from realism to a more general form of the object.

individualism: belief that individual humans are capable of great accomplishments vs. the more communal, group oriented society and mentality of the Middle Ages

inquisition: Tool of the Catholic Church used to assure religious conformity, particularly amongst the Jews.

Isabella d'Este: personified the role of women in some independent city-states--known for her intelligence and political wisdom--called "the first lady of the world.

Ivan III: Prince of Moscow who used his close relationship with Mongol overlords to increase his wealth and political power.

Jacob Burckhardt: Swiss historian and art critic who created the modern concept of the term Renaissance in his 1860 book, *Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy*. He portrayed the 14th and 15th century Italy as the birthplace of the modern world.

Jan van Eyck: One of the first Northern artists to use oil-based paint, which allowed him to create staggering detail such as one of his greatest works, *Arnolfini and his Bride*.

Johannes Gutenberg: developed movable type, which allowed for mass printing of books (Gutenberg Bible). This development fostered the spread of Renaissance and Reformation ideas.

King Matthias Corvinus: Hungarian king who had success creating centralized authority, but after his death Hungary returned to weak rule.

Leon Battista Alberti: 15th Century Florentine architect who expressed the individualism of the Renaissance when he said, "Men can do all things if they will."

Leonardi Bruni: Italian Humanist who wrote *The New Cicero* to reflect the emerging "civic humanism."

Lorenzo Valla: Italian humanist, rhetorician, educator and Catholic priest. He is best known for his textual analysis that proved that the Donation of Constantine was a forgery. Favored classical Latin over the emerging vernacular.

Louis XI: Known as the "Spider King" for his devious ways, but was challenged by his supposed vassal, Charles the Bold.

madrigal: Musical form representing the trend away from music used chiefly only in the service of God. The madrigal was a poem set to music.

Masaccio: Seen as one of the first masters of Early Renaissance art for his use of monumental figures and use of visual perspective.

Michelangelo: Painter, sculptor and architect of the High Renaissance, who was influenced by Neoplatonism. Known for many works (*David* – sculpture), but probably best known for his painting of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Neoplatonism: Movement in Florence to revive and translate the works of Plato. Led by Marsilio Ficino – one of the most prominent works was the synthesis of Christianity and Platonism.

New Monarchies: Historical term used to characterize the reestablishment of more centralized governments that could tax and raise armies.

Northern Renaissance: Characterized by use of oil paints and great rendering of detail

Ottoman Turks: A former Turkish empire that was founded about 1300 by Osman and reached its greatest territorial extent under Suleiman in the 16th century; collapsed after World War I.

patricians: The top element of the Third Estate who made their wealth from trade, industry and banking.

patron: A wealthy person who commissioned works of painting, sculpture, or architecture.

Peace of Lodi: Treaty of 1454 that created alliances (Milan, Florence and Naples against Venice and the Papal States) – this created a "balance of power" that would later be used by European nation-states.

perspective: Renaissance painting technique based on mathematical geometric proportions.

Pico della Mirandola: Italian Renaissance nobleman and philosopher who wrote *Oration on the Dignity of Man*, which remaps the human landscape to center all attention on human capacity and the human perspective.

Raphael: Painter of the High Renaissance era known for his many Madonnas using ideal surpassing human standards – maybe best known for his *School of Athens*.

reconquista: Long series of wars and battles between the Christian Kingdoms and the Muslim Moors for control of the Iberian Peninsula. It lasted for a good portion of the Middle Ages from 718 to 1492.

Reichstag: The imperial diet (parliament) of the Holy Roman Empire Maximilian to create common institutions within the empire, but was checked by powerful German princes.

Renaissance: The cultural rebirth that occurred in Europe from roughly the fourteenth through the middle of the seventeenth centuries, based on the rediscovery of the literature of Greece and Rome

Renaissance Art: Differed from previous forms by its focus on the reality of the object and a focus on human beings.

resident diplomats: Representatives of individual city-states who were deployed to other city-states to gain and exchange information--the forerunner of modern diplomacy.

Sandro Botticelli: Artist who focused on Greek and Roman mythology, which is evidenced in his work *Primavera* (Spring)

secularism: A movement in society directed away from otherworldliness to life on earth.

Sejm: The national Polish diet which was largely controlled by the nobility which they used to reduce the peasantry to serfdom, and also prevented Polish kings from establishing strong central authority.

The Prince: A book written in 1513 by Niccolò Machiavelli that was a "how to" for leaders (princes) based on acquiring immense political power based on pragmatic realism.

Unification of Spain: Occurred when Isabella of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon co-ruled Spain by creating a strong standing army, and using the power of the Catholic Church as a unifying factor.

War of the Roses: civil conflict between the House of Lancaster (Red Rose), and York (White Rose) finally concluded at the Battle of Bosworth Field won by the Yorks.